

which cannot fairly now be taken as indubitable testimony against her, the circumstantial evidence could hardly be more damning. What is of more interest to us is the fact that Buchanan, who turned into Ciceronian Latin the indictment against Mary, also enunciated the theory of the revolution, which ended in her flight to England, in his famous dialogue, "*De Jure Regni apud Scotos*."

With Buchanan, the author of the "*De Jure*/" we feel in congenial company. With Buchanan, the author of the "*Detectio*," we have some difficulty in sympathising. He had been one of Mary's poetic adorers. He had celebrated the charms and the virtues of the *Nympha Caledoniae* in glowing Latin verse. He had been the literary companion of her classical studies, and he had experienced her favour and her friendship. It would have better become such a man, in spite of his interest in Darnley as a Lennox clansman, to have sorrowed and kept silence over her sins. A finer nature would have shrunk from holding his former patroness and friend up to the execration of the world in the terrible philippic which he wrote against her, for pay, to the order of Moray and his fellow-commissioners. Even if he had believed her guilty of all that he laid to her charge in such forcible language, it would have been more seemly, certainly more generous, to have evaded the task of showing her to all Europe as the worst of women, the greatest of sinners. His latest biographer, Mr Hume Brown, labours to rehabilitate his reputation from the charge of ingratitude and unseemliness. I hardly think that he has succeeded. If the "*Detectio*" had come from the pen of Knox, there would have been no jar upon our sense of the fitness of things. While Buchanan was writing laudatory poems in her celebration, Knox was denouncing her in his sternest fashion as an idolatress, summoning her in the name of God to amend her ways. Knox, not Buchanan, was the man to heap up her sins in the face of Europe, and Knox certainly did not neglect his opportunity. She had enemies enough; there was no necessity that Buchanan should enrol himself among the number. If he desired to emulate the honest, vehement Knox, he should have begun sooner. He might have failed to earn a pension, he would have shown a finer character.